

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANGKO 09963 181325Z

44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-20 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 CU-04 /116 W

----- 063475

R 181230Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4297

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 9963

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, TH, MY

SUBJECT: THAI REACTION TO ALLEGED STATEMENT BY MALAYSIAN OFFICIAL TO  
SUPPORT SEPARATIST MOVEMENT IN SOUTHERN THAILAND

REF: A. FBIS D171047Z JUN 74; B. FBIS D170915Z JUN 74

1. ON JUNE 17 THE AFTERNOON ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER, THE "BANGKOK WORLD", HEADLINED A STORY THAT GENERAL KRIT SIWARA HAD STATED THAT KUALA LUMPUR SHOULD NOT INTERFERE IN THE PROBLEM OF SEPARATISM IN SOUTHERN THAILAND WHICH IS AN INTERNAL THAI AFFAIR. GENERAL KRIT SAID HE HAD NOT RECEIVED OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION OF THE REPORT THAT THE MALAYSIAN OPPOSITION PARTY LEADER, DATUK HAJI MUHAMMED ALI BIN HAJI MUDA, WHO IS ALSO MINISTER OF LAND DEVELOPMENT, PROPOSED SUPPORT FOR THE SEPARATION OF FOUR SOUTHERN PROVINCES FROM THAILAND. NONETHELESS, KRIT SAID MALAYSIANS SHOULD NOT MEDDLE IN THAI INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

2. THE NEWSPAPER ALSO REPORTED THAT NATIONAL STUDENT CENTER OF THAILAND (NSCT) REPRESENTATIVES ATTEMPTED TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BANGKO 09963 181325Z

PRESENT A LETTER OF PROTEST AND A WREATH OF BLACK

FLOWERS TO THE MALAYSIAN AMBASSADOR, TAN SRI HAJ ABDUL, AT THE MALAYSIAN EMBASSY THE MORNING OF 17 JUN. EMBASSY OFFICERS REPORTED THE AMBASSADOR WAS ABSENT BUT ASKED THE STUDENTS TO DELIVER THE LETTER TO ANOTHER OFFICIAL. THE STUDENTS REFUSED AND WAITED OUTSIDE THE EMBASSY UNTIL MID-AFTERNOON WHEN THEY BURNED THE LETTER. NSCT DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AFFAIRS, PINPONG SUWANIKUN, AND SOUTHERN STUDENT LEADER, ABDUL AHJI, LED THE STUDENTS. WHEN THE MALAYSIAN AMBASSADOR RETURNED TO THE EMBASSY SOME TEN MINUTES AFTER THE LETTER WAS BURNT HE REFUSED TO SEE THE STUDENTS.

3. IN THE JUNE 18 ISSUE OF "THE NATION", THE TEXT OF THE NSCT NOTE IS GIVEN AS FOLLOWS: THE NSCT IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION IN SOUTH THAILAND AND DOES NOT WISH TO SEE ANY EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE IN ANY FORM WHATSOEVER IN THAILAND'S AFFAIRS. THE NSCT REMINDED THE AMBASSADOR OF THE LONG FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THAILAND AND MALAYSIA, AND SAID BOTH COUNTRIES FACE SIMILAR PROBLEMS IN THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND SHARED THE NEED TO ELIMINATE THESE PROBLEMS FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE. "AS FAR AS THE PROBLEMS IN SOUTH THAILAND ARE CONCERNED, THE THAI GOVERNMENT HAS ADOPTED THE POLICY OF GRANTING EQUAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOM TO ALL THAI PEOPLE REGARDLESS OF THEIR RACE AND RELIGION, AND EQUALITY GUARANTEED BY THE THAI CONSTITUTION."

4. LATE IN THE AFTERNOON OF 17 JUNE, ACCORDING TO THE JUNE 18 ISSUE OF THE "BANGKOK POST", THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) SUMMONED THE MALAYSIAN AMBASSADOR TO VERIFY PRESS REPORTS THAT THE MALAYSIAN OPPOSITION PAN MALAYAN ISLAMIC PARTY EXPRESSED SUPPORT TO THE SEPARATIST MOVEMENT IN SOUTHERN THAILAND. FOREIGN MINISTER CHARUNPHAN ITSARANGKUN NA AYUTTHAYA SAID THE MFA CABLED THE THAI EMBASSY IN KUALA LUMPUR TO VERIFY THE COMMENTS. THE MALAYSIAN AMBASSADOR SAID HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE REPORTS, BUT HIS EMBASSY HAD CABLED KUALA LUMPUR FOR DETAILS.

5. WE DO NOT YET KNOW WHETHER THE THAI GOVERNMENT HAS RECEIVED CONFIRMATION OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT MINISTER'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BANGKO 09963 181325Z

ALLEGED COMMENTS.

6. COMMENT: THIS INCIDENT, WHICH MAY YET PROVE TO BE A TEMPEST IN A TEAPOT, SHOWS THE EXTREME THAI SENSITIVITIES TO INSPIENT POTENTIAL OR EVENT/IMAGINED MALAY IRRIDENTIST DESIGNS ON THE SOUTHERN-MOST FOUR MUSLIM PROVINCES. EVEN IF THE MALAY OFFICIAL'S REMARKS PROVE TO HAVE BEEN LESS INFLAMMATORY THAN THE INITIAL REPORTS, THE EXAGGERATED VERSION MAY

WELL REMAIN AN IRRITANT AFTER ITS DEBUNKING IS FORGOTTEN.

7. ACTION REQUESTED OF EMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR; CAN YOU  
PROVIDE US WITH A TEXT OF THE MINISTER OF LAND DEVELOPMENT'S  
REMARKS.

KINTNER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, MOSLEMS, POLITICAL SITUATION, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, YOUTH GROUPS, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** WorrelSW  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BANGKO09963  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740158-0595  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740637/aaaabfpr.tel  
**Line Count:** 121  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A. FBIS D171047Z JUN 74; B. FBIS D17, 0915Z JUN 74  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** WorrelSW  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <13 MAR 2003 by WorrelSW>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THAI REACTION TO ALLEGED STATEMENT BY MALAYSIAN OFFICIAL TO SUPPORT SEPARATIST MOVEMENT IN SOUTHERN THAILAND  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINS, TH, MY, (KRIT SIWARA)  
**To:** STATE KUALA LUMPUR  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005